

on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Dr. Foster, to be Surgeon General, with the mandatory quorum under rule XXII being waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOLE. If cloture is invoked, the Senate would immediately begin postcloture debate under the provisions of rule XXII.

I also ask, if cloture is not invoked, the Senate return to legislative session, and at 12 noon on Thursday, June 22, the Senate resume executive session to consider the nomination of Dr. Foster, and there be 2 hours of debate equally divided in the usual form, and at 2 p.m. a second vote occur on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Dr. Foster, to be Surgeon General, with the mandatory quorum under rule XXII being waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOLE. Again, if cloture is invoked, the Senate would immediately begin debate postcloture under the provisions of rule XXII.

And finally I ask unanimous consent that if cloture is not invoked on the Foster nomination, the nomination be immediately returned to the calendar and the Senate return to legislative session, all without any intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. I wonder if I might just indulge the distinguished majority leader on a couple of questions. Assuming that cloture is invoked, obviously there is a 30-hour time agreement. But is it the intention of the majority leader not to limit time on the actual confirmation vote itself?

Mr. DOLE. Beyond the 30 hours?

Mr. DASCHLE. No, something shorter than 30 hours.

Mr. DOLE. My view is there would be 30 hours. I do not think it would take 30 hours, but certainly—as I understand, the most any one Member could accumulate would be 7 hours.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, let me thank the distinguished majority leader for his cooperation in the effort over the last several days to reach this point. Obviously, we are quite hopeful that we can invoke cloture on the first vote and go to a vote on the confirmation shortly thereafter.

This represents an effort on both sides to allow a vote, at least first on cloture, and second, hopefully, on the motion to confirm Dr. Foster. I know the distinguished majority leader has expressed his interest in working with us to reach this point, and I appreciate the cooperation that he has demonstrated.

We will have 3 hours of debate tomorrow, and then, if we fail to invoke cloture tomorrow, 2 hours of debate on Thursday. Many of us have been seeking an opportunity to have a vote, and

we are just hopeful, now that we have reached this agreement, that, indeed, we can find the requisite number of colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure that cloture is invoked and that Dr. Foster be allowed a vote on confirmation.

As I understand it, no nomination for the Bush administration was ever defeated on a cloture motion, and I hope the same opportunity could be accorded the nominees of this President.

In accordance with the agreement, I ask unanimous consent to send two cloture motions to the desk, as in executive session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank again the distinguished majority leader.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion, having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 174, the nomination of Dr. Henry Foster, to be Surgeon General of the United States.

Senators Christopher Dodd, Carl Levin, Dianne Feinstein, James Exon, Harry Reid, Daniel K. Akaka, Claiborne Pell, Richard Bryan, Patty Murray, Bob Graham, Max Baucus, Frank R. Lautenberg, Russell D. Feingold, Barbara Mikulski, Barbara Boxer, Edward Kennedy, and Tom Daschle.

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We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 174, the nomination of Dr. Henry Foster, to be Surgeon General of the United States.

Senators Christopher Dodd, Carl Levin, Dianne Feinstein, James Exon, Harry Reid, Daniel K. Akaka, Claiborne Pell, Richard Bryan, Patty Murray, Bob Graham, Max Baucus, Frank R. Lautenberg, Russell D. Feingold, Barbara Mikulski, Barbara Boxer, Edward Kennedy, and Tom Daschle.

(Later, the following occurred:)

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator MOSELEY-BRAUN be added to the cloture motion filed with regard to the nomination of Dr. Foster.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(Conclusion of earlier proceedings.)

Mr. DOLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, Senator DASCHLE, the Democratic leader. Let me indicate, as I said before, I did meet with Dr. Foster yesterday morning in my Hart office. We had a good discussion. I asked him a series of questions. I indicated to him that there would be possibly two votes, a cloture vote, which he understood would be, in effect to vote on the nomination, and if cloture was invoked, there could be a second vote, which would be a vote on the nomination itself. I tried to lay it out as best I could to Dr. Foster.

In addition, I must say, as is the case sometimes, different plans to proceed sometimes do not please everyone. This is not the process some of my colleagues would prefer. Some would prefer not to bring it up at all; that I, in effect, as the leader had a veto and should not bring this up. I thought about that and indicated at one time that might be the course I would follow, but I also had other options to consider, and this is another option.

If cloture should be invoked, then there will be the debate. I do not think it will consume 30 hours and I guess the vote, if it went that far, would be very, very close, based on my count. Whether or not there will be votes for cloture, I am not certain. I do not think so, but there may be.

We will put all this information in the RECORD tomorrow. There had been a number of nominations for the Bush administration which never got to the floor. They were in the committee and held in the committee and never got to the floor. We can have that debate, too.

The important thing is the Foster nomination was reported out of the Labor Committee in late May, and we had a week's recess. Nobody is suggesting, and I think the record is fairly clear, there has been no undue delay. We are trying to dispose of the nomination one way or the other. I think that is acknowledged, though some might suggest we should not be proceeding in this fashion. But that is a judgment that I made and I hope that we can conclude—in fact, I hope cloture is not invoked and that this nomination then would go back on the calendar after a vote on Thursday.

ACCOLADES TO JOHN KERRY

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, last weekend the U.S. Navy formally retired the last of the Navy's legendary swift boats. Our friend and colleague, Senator JOHN KERRY played a central role in the ceremonies attending the event. As many of our colleagues know, JOHN KERRY was not always the genteel, polished U.S. Senator he is today. He was once the 25-year-old skipper of a swift boat, PC-94, a title as honorable as any he subsequently earned.

JOHN KERRY distinguished himself in service to his country aboard his swift boat, earning the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and three Purple Hearts. His speech at the retirement ceremony